

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 415, nays 5, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 501]

YEAS—415

Abercrombie	Cubin	Hayworth
Ackerman	Cummings	Hefley
Aderholt	Cunningham	Herger
Allen	Danner	Hill (IN)
Archer	Davis (FL)	Hill (MT)
Armey	Davis (IL)	Hilleary
Bachus	Davis (VA)	Hilliard
Baird	Deal	Hinchee
Baker	DeFazio	Hinojosa
Baldacci	DeGette	Hobson
Baldwin	Delahunt	Hoefel
Ballenger	DeLauro	Hoekstra
Barcia	DeLay	Holden
Barr	DeMint	Holt
Barrett (NE)	Deutsch	Hooley
Barrett (WI)	Diaz-Balart	Horn
Bartlett	Dickey	Hostettler
Barton	Dicks	Houghton
Bass	Dingell	Hoyer
Bateman	Dixon	Hulshof
Becerra	Doggett	Hunter
Bentsen	Dooley	Hutchinson
Bereuter	Doolittle	Hyde
Berkley	Doyle	Inslee
Berman	Dreier	Isakson
Berry	Duncan	Istook
Biggert	Dunn	Jackson (IL)
Bilbray	Edwards	Jackson-Lee
Bilirakis	Ehlers	(TX)
Bishop	Ehrlich	Jenkins
Blagojevich	Emerson	Johnson (CT)
Bliley	Engel	Johnson, E. B.
Blumenauer	English	Johnson, Sam
Blunt	Eshoo	Jones (NC)
Boehlert	Etheridge	Jones (OH)
Boehner	Evans	Kanjorski
Bonilla	Everett	Kaptur
Bonior	Ewing	Kasich
Bono	Farr	Kelly
Borski	Fattah	Kennedy
Boswell	Filner	Kildee
Boucher	Fletcher	Kilpatrick
Boyd	Foley	Kind (WI)
Brady (PA)	Forbes	King (NY)
Brady (TX)	Ford	Klecza
Brown (FL)	Fossella	Klink
Brown (OH)	Fowler	Knollenberg
Bryant	Frank (MA)	Kolbe
Burr	Franks (NJ)	Kucinich
Burton	Frelinghuysen	Kuykendall
Callahan	Frost	LaFalce
Calvert	Gallegly	LaHood
Camp	Ganske	Lampson
Campbell	Gejdenson	Lantos
Canady	Gekas	Largent
Cannon	Gephardt	Larson
Capps	Gibbons	Latham
Capuano	Gilchrest	LaTourette
Cardin	Gillmor	Lazio
Castle	Gilman	Leach
Chabot	Gonzalez	Lee
Chambliss	Goode	Levin
Clay	Goodlatte	Lewis (CA)
Clayton	Goodling	Lewis (GA)
Clement	Gordon	Lewis (KY)
Clyburn	Goss	Linder
Coble	Graham	Lipinski
Coburn	Granger	LoBiondo
Collins	Green (WI)	Lofgren
Combest	Greenwood	Lowe
Condit	Gutierrez	Lucas (KY)
Cook	Gutknecht	Lucas (OK)
Cooksey	Hall (OH)	Luther
Costello	Hall (TX)	Maloney (CT)
Coyne	Hansen	Maloney (NY)
Cramer	Hastings (FL)	Manzullo
Crane	Hastings (WA)	Markey
Crowley	Hayes	Martinez

Mascara	Pickering	Souder
Matsui	Pickett	Spence
McCarthy (MO)	Pitts	Spratt
McCarthy (NY)	Pombo	Stabenow
McCollum	Pomeroy	Stark
McCrery	Porter	Stearns
McDermott	Portman	Stenholm
McGovern	Price (NC)	Strickland
McHugh	Pryce (OH)	Stump
McInnis	Quinn	Stupak
McIntosh	Radanovich	Sununu
McIntyre	Rahall	Sweeney
McKeon	Ramstad	Talent
McKinney	Rangel	Tancredo
McNulty	Reyes	Tanner
Meehan	Reynolds	Tauzin
Meek (FL)	Riley	Taylor (MS)
Meeks (NY)	Rivers	Taylor (NC)
Menendez	Rodriguez	Terry
Mica	Roemer	Thomas
Millender-	Rogan	Thompson (CA)
McDonald	Rogers	Thompson (MS)
Miller (FL)	Rohrabacher	Thornberry
Miller, Gary	Ros-Lehtinen	Thune
Miller, George	Rothman	Thurman
Minge	Roukema	Tiahrt
Mink	Roybal-Allard	Tierney
Moakley	Rush	Toomey
Mollohan	Ryan (WI)	Towns
Moore	Ryun (KS)	Trafigant
Moran (KS)	Sabo	Turner
Moran (VA)	Salmon	Udall (CO)
Morella	Sanchez	Udall (NM)
Murtha	Sanders	Upton
Myrick	Sandlin	Velazquez
Nadler	Sawyer	Vento
Napolitano	Saxton	Visclosky
Neal	Schaffer	Vitter
Nethercutt	Schakowsky	Walden
Ney	Scott	Walsh
Northup	Sensenbrenner	Wamp
Norwood	Serrano	Waters
Nussle	Sessions	Watkins
Oberstar	Shadegg	Watt (NC)
Obey	Shaw	Watts (OK)
Oliver	Shays	Waxman
Ortiz	Sherman	Weiner
Ose	Sherwood	Weldon (FL)
Owens	Shimkus	Weldon (PA)
Oxley	Shows	Weller
Packard	Shuster	Wexler
Pallone	Simpson	Weygand
Pascarell	Sisisky	Whitfield
Pastor	Skeen	Wicker
Payne	Skelton	Wilson
Pease	Slaughter	Wise
Pelosi	Smith (MI)	Wolf
Peterson (MN)	Smith (NJ)	Woolsey
Peterson (PA)	Smith (TX)	Wu
Petri	Smith (WA)	Wynn
Phelps	Snyder	Young (FL)

NAYS—5

Chenoweth-Hage
Metcalf

NOT VOTING—13

Andrews	Green (TX)	Scarborough
Buyer	Jefferson	Tauscher
Carson	John	Young (AK)
Conyers	Kingston	
Cox	Regula	

□ 1359

Mr. METCALF changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "To amend title 49, United States Code, to establish the National Motor Carrier Safety Administration in the Department of Transportation, to improve the safety of commercial motor vehicle operators and carriers, to strengthen commercial driver's licenses, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, during the vote on H.R. 2679, the Motor Carrier Safety Act of 1999, I was unavoid-

ably delayed. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, on roll call votes numbered 500 and 501, I was unavoidably detained because I was tending to family medical concerns, and I was unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on both of these votes.

□ 1400

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 1501, JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM ACT OF 1999

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HANSEN). The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 1501, be instructed to insist that—

(1) the committee of conference should immediately have its first substantive meeting to offer amendments and motions, including gun safety amendments and motions, and

(2) the committee of conference report a conference substitute by October 20, the six month anniversary of the tragedy at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, and with sufficient opportunity for both the House and the Senate to consider gun safety legislation prior to adjournment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) will be recognized for 30 minutes, and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PEASE) will be recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would think this House of Representatives and the United States Senate would want to be known to the American people as a Congress that works, a Congress that is responsive, a Congress that is sensitive to the needs of the American people.

I would prefer not standing here today. I would prefer actually being in conference to discuss H.R. 1501, the Juvenile Justice Reform Act, that includes gun safety measures that have been debated for a long time in the United States House of Representatives and, in fact, was passed out of the United States Senate. Yet now, it is October 14 and our conference has not yet had an additional meeting.

Next week, October 20, we will find ourselves 6 months in the anniversary or the commemoration of the tragedy at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado. I believe it is imperative that the Committee of the Conference report a conference substitute by that date, the 6-month anniversary of the tragedy at Columbine.

If we were to report a conference substitute, which we are perfectly able to do, we would then have sufficient time to bring to both the House and the Senate this legislation that the American people are asking for, along with the opportunity for the President of the United States to sign this bill.

Mr. Speaker, we need not repeat the figures that we have said over and over again. Thirteen children die every day from homicides. I have been dealing with this action and these issues for a long time. I am reminded of some 6 years ago, almost 7, 1992, 1993, as a member of the Houston City council, when we were having in the City of Houston any number of accidental shootings, children using guns and shooting children; babies taking guns; 3-year-olds accidentally finding guns and shooting another child.

We had a high number of these incidents where children were going into the emergency room. Fortunately, some of those children lived, but our medical professionals told us that we were spending as much as \$65,000 for a child injured by a gun. We gathered our heads and our resources in a bipartisan manner, though my city council is not Republican or Democrat, and we passed the gun safety and responsibility act which held parents responsible, adults, for children getting guns in their hands.

Mr. Speaker, we saw a 50 percent decline, 50 percent decline, in the number of shootings and deaths by children, accidental, in Harris County and the City of Houston.

Now, today I stand before this body begging that we do the responsible thing, which is to pass gun safety legislation. The Senate passed gun safety legislation in early May, and the Republican House leadership waited over a month to consider gun safety legislation while the NRA drafted a phony loophole-filled bill that weakened the current law. More than a month has passed before conferees were appointed. We were asking every day, I remember, before we went on a work recess in August.

In the meantime, the Republican leadership again raised a phony issue to justify the delay. They actually claimed the ban on importing high-capacity ammo clips was a tax bill.

Let me at this point say there are many Republicans who agree that we should move forward. We have worked with the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary on the House side, and I believe there are many issues that the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and Democrats, along with the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) on the Committee on the Judiciary and those of us appointed to the conference committee, can actually agree with.

Why then can we not do what the conference committee demands of us? Go to conference and generate a compromise to provide more safety features, more safety as it relates to guns for the American people.

The conference has held only one meeting. Mr. Speaker, over 2 months ago, only for the purpose of giving opening statements. Our appetite was whet at that time. We thought we were on the move. We thought we were going to have other meetings so that we could pursue this. It is outrageous, Mr. Speaker, that we have not had a serious working meeting for some 6 months since Columbine, and we have still done nothing.

This motion that I am offering today is an extremely important motion, Mr. Speaker, because it says the thing that the American people have sent us to do. It says, get to work immediately. Report a conference substitute by October 20, the 6-month anniversary of Columbine. Let us not have our words be of no substance, bring no comfort to the American people.

I remember the leader of this House, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), telling us of the terrible moment he had in going to the funeral of those young people in Columbine; and he said the most moving experience he had was that of a parent who lost a child who said, simply, Mr. Leader, will you do something, will you do something?

Now, today, October 14, nearly the 6-month anniversary of that tragedy, we have done nothing. We must give the House and the Senate time to consider gun safety before this session of the Congress adjourns. Mr. Speaker, this is a simple request.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PEASE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as the Speaker knows, there are many ways to reach decisions. Conference committees do their work publicly. They do their work privately and, in fact, the reason that conferees on this conference committee are not here on the floor today to respond to the presentation made by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is that they are at this moment engaged in negotiations and discussions on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY).

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the motion to instruct conferees on the juvenile justice bill. A number of us on this side of the aisle came down several mornings in a row and read the names of young people that had died because of gun violence since Columbine. We read the names of the average of 13 children killed every day, a Columbine every day in this country, due to gun violence. We read their names, and we read their ages; 10-, 11-, 14-, 15-year-olds killed by gun violence since Columbine.

Now the Members of the conference committee have an opportunity to respond to that, to say we are going to do something. Are we going to stop all the killing? No, we are not going to stop all the killing. Can we save some lives? Can we save some children from being on that list? We can do that. Millions of American families are counting on Congress to help end the cycle of violence that has taken the lives of too many children. We must have a juvenile justice bill that includes these modest, common sense gun safety measures that are so widely supported by the American people.

The Senate passed these common sense gun safety provisions this year, and it would require the sale of child safety locks with each handgun. Who could possibly be opposed? We could prevent every single accidental shooting of children that pick up a handgun.

Close the gun show sales loophole. Why not prevent criminals from getting handguns at gun shows? And ban the importation of large capacity ammunition clips. We, however, have failed to pass any gun safety measures this year. I urge, along with my colleague, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE), the House negotiators to agree to the Senate's common sense gun safety measures, and I urge them to do it now. It is time to pass, past time to pass, sensible gun safety legislation to protect our children and safeguard our communities.

I urge my colleagues to support this motion to instruct.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), because she has recounted where we are in this lack of activity on this very important issue. Might I remind my colleagues that Columbine was not the only tragic incident that we faced with our children suffering the frightening experience of having guns in schools and seeing young people with guns.

Conyers, Georgia, one month after Littleton, Colorado. In addition, several shootings took place in Illinois, particularly the terrible shooting during on the July 4 holiday when Benjamin Nathaniel Smith in a hateful rampage killed 2 people and injured 9 others. On July 29, Mark Barton from Atlanta, Georgia, killed nine people and wounded 13; and on August 5, the day the conference committee finally met, Allen Eugene Miller, Pelham, Alabama, went into his former places of employment and killed two co-workers and a third person at another company.

None of us have been able to get out of our minds the terrible tragedy in Los Angeles of the Jewish Community Center as we saw babies running out of their day care center, hands holding on to police for dear life, while a deranged shooter who had gotten a gun from a gun show, ultimately traced back to a gun show, and took his deranged mind

and his deranged attitudes and shot individuals at a day care center and ultimately killed another individual.

Mr. Speaker, the issue of this motion to instruct is for the House and the Senate conferees to get to work.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Chicago, Illinois (Mr. RUSH), my friend and a member of the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this motion to instruct. It is very simple for me, Mr. Speaker. It is vital that the conference committee move forward on this very, very important and crucial piece of legislation, H.R. 1501.

Mr. Speaker, let me remind the Members here that the Senate passed gun safety legislation in early May of this year, early May, Mr. Speaker. Now it is mid-October, and we still have no action on this particular bill.

The House, Republican House leadership, waited over a month to consider gun safety legislation. While they waited, in the back room, in the smoke-filled back room, the NRA was busy at work drafting a phony loophole-filled bill that weakened even the current law.

□ 1415

More than a month passed before the conferees were appointed. In the meantime, the Republican leadership raised phony issues, blue slipping issues to justify their delay. Any excuse for delay was the order of the day, any excuse.

The most suspicious argument was foisted upon this body, excuse after excuse, delay after delay. They actually claim, Mr. Speaker, as a final resort, they claim the ban on importing high-capacity ammo clips was really a tax bill. How ludicrous. How ridiculous.

Mr. Speaker, it is so shameful that the conference has held only one meeting, and this was over 2 months ago, on this very, very important and critical issue.

The people in my district, the First District of Illinois, they are pleading, they are begging, they are waiting for this Congress to do something about gun safety. They want us to move, and they want us to move quickly.

Mr. Speaker, 6 months have passed, 6 months since Columbine, and still this body has done nothing. While we have sat around like knots on a log, sat around while guns are taking the lives of our children all across this Nation.

The Jackson-Lee motion to instruct simply instructs conferees to get to work, get to work immediately, get to work now, report the conference substitute by October 20, the 6-month anniversary of Columbine, and give both the House and the Senate time to consider gun safety before this session of Congress adjourns.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate very much the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH)

pointing out that our task here is to save lives. I want to note that, interestingly enough, the Colt manufacturer has recognized that the gun has been an instrument that has been used to kill our children in its refusal to manufacture any more handguns.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), the assistant to the minority leader.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, nearly 6 months ago, a devastating shooting at Columbine High School claimed 15 lives. It opened the eyes across the country to the tragedies that occur when guns are allowed into children's hands. Nearly 6 months and numerous deaths since Columbine, the Republican leadership of this House still has taken no action to keep guns out of the hands of children and criminals.

It should not take a Columbine or Jonesboro or a Los Angeles day care center shooting to get Congress to do the right thing, to enact common-sense gun safety measures. Daily double digit death counts of children because of guns ought to be enough to spur us to act.

Sadly, nearly 6 months since Columbine, nothing has been done. The Republican leadership that tried to water down and kill gun safety legislation at the bidding of the NRA earlier this year seems to be on the NRA payroll still.

The House and Senate are supposed to be working toward a compromise on juvenile justice legislation, but only one meeting has been held in the past 2 months, and it was only a symbolic gathering.

It is time for action. We need a strong bill that will keep firearms out of the hands of those who should not have them. At the very least, the final bill must include the Senate-passed gun safety measures and exclude the kind of poison pills that Republican leaders recently have used to try to block essential efforts such as campaign finance reform and a patients' bill of rights. Children's lives are much too important for such games.

Just this week, families in Connecticut were given another chilling reminder of the need to keep children and guns apart. The Hartford Courant's headlines captures what has become all too familiar: "Two Boys, A Gun, Another Nightmare." It reads, "In the Montville case, State police said Austin Lamb, 7, and brother Alex Lamb, 9, were apparently playing with a long-barreled weapon, either a rifle or a shotgun, in their grandparents' bedroom when the gun went off Sunday morning. Austin died of a single gunshot wound to the head."

It is time for Congress to enact common-sense gun safety measures. Let us be responsive to the parents, to the families, to the children of this country. I applaud the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) and her motion to instruct.

Mr. PEASE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I voted for this legislation when it was up for a House vote, and it failed to get the appropriate number of votes. I think it is a shame that there was a disagreement, maybe, on both sides with the suggestion that there be a 24-hour waiting period, a concern somewhat about whether 24 hours was legitimate.

I called the FBI, and I said, well, what happens in the current 3-day waiting period when you find afterwards that some individual has lied on the application plus taken possession of the gun? They said, well, there were many of those, something like 5,000 last year that they found out after the 3-day waiting period that they committed, really, two felonies. They committed one felony on lying on the application and they committed another felony by taking possession of that gun when they were prior-convicted felons.

I said, well, what happens then? They said, well, in all except a few cases, because they had committed a double felony, we went after them aggressively. We called the ATF. We called local law enforcement. We not only caught and started prosecuting most all of those individuals that we found out later had violated two laws, really, but we confiscated the weapons.

So it seems to me that, in the question of 24 hours, if somehow we have that good of record in terms of ATF and FBI and local law enforcement going after these individuals now that have committed two felonies, that there is some advantage in coming to some kind of an agreement that is reasonable to help assure that we close this loophole at gun shows and simply do not let it go on for partisan reasons.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let me comment. I was trying to agree with the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH), particularly if the gentleman is talking about we need to close gun show loopholes. I have to remind the gentleman that one of the problems with the initiatives we passed in the House was that it opened a gaping loophole which most law enforcement opposed.

The limitation of 24 hours would not protect or provide opportunity for law enforcement to check gun shows that fall usually on Saturdays and Sundays. It does not give them the 3-day or 72 hours that was needed to close the loopholes that would allow the Mack truck, and I do not want to put anything on truckers, of criminals to drive through it, get their guns, and commit 10 felonies, not just two felonies.

So I hope the gentleman from Michigan is, in fact, agreeing that we in the conference committee can get to this meeting and develop a compromise

that would truly close the loopholes that we are all facing that allows criminals to get guns in their hands and to commit felonies.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MEEHAN), who is a former prosecutor and joins me as a member of the conference committee on H.R. 1501, trying to pass real gun safety.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) for her motion to instruct conferees in this issue. I have to say it is unacceptable, unconscionable that we have had one meeting in the conference committee as violence continues, as accidents with guns continue all across this country, and Congress does nothing.

The fact of the matter is, in America today, 13 young children a day die as a result of gun violence. As I go across my District in Massachusetts and talk to students, talk to high school students, talk to young people, they say, why is it that we can have so many problems with guns in America? Why is it that we could let 6 months go by from the tragedy in Columbine High and have the Congress of the United States respond by doing nothing?

We had a meeting of the conference committee, one meeting, and there was a discussion, and everybody sort of dug in. We have made zero progress.

The other body stood up and took a vote on gun safety measures that are reasonable, that make sense. The time has come to enact this legislation.

How frustrating it is to go back to my home district in Massachusetts and talk to the law enforcement community or to talk to the people that have been involved with the gun safety program in Boston, Massachusetts, a national model, and try to explain to them why we cannot get anything done in the Congress of the United States to send reasonable gun safety measures over to the President for his signature.

I cannot help but think, Mr. Speaker, about the enormous influence of these special interests, whether it is the NRA or the other groups that are trying to prevent the Congress from doing the right thing in this legislation, and just to look to see the enormous influence that they have in making contributions to the political system that is in desperate need of reform as that issue is debated in the other body. How fortunate we could be if we could take away the special interests and make decisions based on the merits.

The time has come for this Congress to take action. How many kids need to die before this Congress steps up to the plate and passes real gun safety legislation? We should be ashamed of the fact that we have let 6 months go by with the American public crying for action, crying for reasonable gun safety measures, but here we are capitulating, procrastinating, delaying.

I thank the gentlewoman from Texas for her motion, and I urge my colleagues to push the members of the

conference committee to stop this delay and pass real meaningful gun safety legislation.

All we have to do is look at the tragedies that happen across this country. How many more children need to die as a result of lack of reasonable gun safety measures before this Congress takes a stand? All my colleagues need to do is talk to the members of the school departments in their district, to talk to young people, to talk to law enforcement officials. The time has come for action, reasonable gun safety measures.

So I urge the Congress to vote in favor of the Jackson-Lee motion to instruct conferees. I ask the Members of this body to move the conference committee ahead, and let us send this issue to the President within the next week or so. America is waiting for our action.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MEEHAN), we serve on the conference committee, but I also know in our work together in the Committee on the Judiciary, his work as a former prosecutor, there is some complaint or angst about the enforcement of laws. I do not think any of us have disagreed with the enforcement of laws.

But maybe the gentleman can comment on the value of having laws on the books that will be tools by which various loopholes can be closed so that prosecutors, whether they are State prosecutors or Federal prosecutors, can, in fact, have the tools to be able to prosecute.

The way the legislation is now postured out of the House as juxtaposed against the Senate, the conference is the only place where we can put together a good substitute to give those tools to close the loopholes where criminals every day are marching into gun shows randomly and recklessly taking guns and using them against innocent law-abiding citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MEEHAN) to talk about the tools.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas on that. I guess the best evidence that I would present is the Boston gun safety tracing program that even the opponents of gun safety measures in the conference committee brought up the Boston program and said that is a model. Let us just enforce those laws that are on the books.

□ 1430

The reality is that there are States, and Massachusetts is one of them, that are taking the initiative to go beyond what the Federal has. They have not waited for the Congress to act. Because if they waited for the Congress to act, under the Massachusetts gun safety laws, we would not have been able to institute the gun safety measures in

Boston where guns that are used in the commission of a crime are being traced and those tracing those guns have enabled them to pull in more arrests, to reduce violence in Boston, to reduce violence in any of the jurisdictions where they have undertaken these gun safety projects.

But we need to provide the tools for law enforcement to take those models across the country where they have worked to learn from those areas of the country where we have all actually been able to reduce violence with guns and use those procedures and use those law enforcement techniques across the country.

One of the things we want to see in this bill passed is the resources to implement the tools of those areas where they are working so effectively.

I heard members of the conference committee on both sides of the aisle talking about the areas of the country where gun safety measures have worked with law enforcement working with the schools and working with prosecutors, working with the U.S. Attorney's Office and the FBI. And I would suggest that that effort in Boston, a national model where violence with handguns and violence with guns have dramatically been reduced as a result of it, that is all we need to look at. The fact is, Massachusetts has enacted gun safety legislation that Federal law enforcement officers have been able to use to make that program so effective.

So I think that if we look at those national models, then it is clear to see that we have an enormous opportunity to reduce gun violence measures simply by giving law enforcement the tools that they need.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, let me also note and compliment the community of the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MEEHAN) for having at least 18 months to 2 years where they did not have the shooting of one single teenager. I believe, through this program, which means that his community had the tools, prosecutors had the tools, law enforcement had the tools in order to ensure that they save lives.

It really strikes me as strange that those who argue, our Republican friends, let law enforcement enforce the laws would now have a stalemate where we cannot even get into the conference committee and discuss amendments such as the one that I am recommending where children have to be accompanied by adults going to gun shows, where we are closing that 24-hour loophole, and where we are recognizing that trigger locks are important, ammunition clips utilized by Buford Furrow on August 10, as we just mentioned, who ran into a Jewish community center and subsequently killed a postal worker with guns with an automatic clip.

These are laws that we can in a consensus come to pass, hand over, if you will, those laws to the United States

attorneys and to local officials to begin to enforce these. And yet we would not do it.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, why in the world would anyone think it is a bad idea to have an adult with a young person that goes into a gun show to buy a gun? Why in the world would anybody think that it is okay for children in America to go into a gun show and get a gun without the requisite background checks? Why would anybody think that is okay?

No one in this country thinks it is okay. Eighty-five percent of Americans say, why can we not do something about it? So I thank the gentlewoman for her comments, and the point that she brings up is just so valid. Who would ever think that was okay?

Mr. PEASE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2¼ minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN), a member of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the very distinguished gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) for bringing this legislation up.

Obviously, the purpose of this is to continue to keep the public focused on the urgency and importance of gun legislation. It is unfortunate we use the term "gun control." This is simply common sense attempts to do what rational people would want done in the context of what has become a crisis situation in our schools and in our communities.

But what this legislation that has been suggested does not do is terribly important to emphasize. It does not prevent anyone from using rifles. It does not make it illegal to own handguns. It does not confiscate or require the registration of handguns. It does only three relatively marginal things. It says if they are at gun shows, then they ought to have the same requirements as retail gun shop owners in selling handguns. That makes sense, have the same requirements.

Why make it so much easier for people at a gun show? Why should we be importing large magazine clips? That does not make a lot of sense. They are not for the purpose of hunting. They are for the purpose of killing, and they are the weapons of choice for drug dealers. And then why not have child safety locks?

We do not let children drive automobiles. We require them to know what they are doing. We ought to make it difficult for children to be able to have access to guns. It seems to me these are marginal things, and they are suggested in the light of a critical situation.

Canada and other civilized countries have about a dozen deaths from firearms in a year. We have over 20,000.

That is too many. Look at the differences. It is not that people hunt less in Canada. They hunt more. But they require people that have access to guns to be able to know how to use them. That is common sense.

Mr. PEASE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I advise my colleagues that we understand this is a difficult, complex, and emotional issue. It is not an issue without disagreement between members of both political parties within the parties and between the parties.

Even today, conferees from our party are working to try and reach a resolution on these terribly complex issues. But they are faced with the fact that there is not consensus within the Democratic party, nor is there consensus within the Republican party, nor is there consensus within the House or the Nation within the specifics. Yet, they are committed to bringing a conference committee report to this House before the end of this session for our consideration. We should give them the time to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this is a simple proposition to my colleagues. It is about keeping guns out of the hands of children and criminals. It is a vote to encourage the conference to meet.

My good friend on the Committee on the Judiciary knows full well that the Democrats are not engaged in this debate, that they are not inside these negotiations. American people want action. That action, Mr. Speaker, is to vote for this motion to instruct, that we have a substitute before October 20 to keep guns out of the hands of children and guns out of the hands of adults, to stop the proliferation of guns in this Nation and the killing of 13 children by guns every single day.

The American mothers, the American fathers, the American families want us to stand up and be counted against this kind of tragedy in America.

For my friends in Texas, this is not a vote against the Second Amendment. This is a vote for the Constitution and for the Second Amendment. Gun safety must be passed in America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HANSEN). Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 174, nays 249, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 502]

YEAS—174

Abercrombie	Gonzalez	Obey
Ackerman	Gutierrez	Oliver
Allen	Hastings (FL)	Owens
Andrews	Hinojosa	Pallone
Baldacci	Hoeffel	Pascarell
Baldwin	Holt	Pastor
Barrett (WI)	Hooley	Payne
Becerra	Horn	Pelosi
Bentsen	Hoyer	Pomeroy
Berkley	Inslee	Porter
Berman	Jackson (IL)	Price (NC)
Bilbray	Jackson-Lee	Ramstad
Blagojevich	(TX)	Rangel
Blumenauer	Johnson, E. B.	Reyes
Boehrlert	Jones (OH)	Rivers
Bonior	Kennedy	Rodriguez
Borski	Kildee	Rogan
Brady (PA)	Kilpatrick	Rothman
Brown (FL)	Klecza	Roukema
Brown (OH)	Kucinich	Roybal-Allard
Campbell	Kuykendall	Rush
Capps	LaFalce	Sabo
Capuano	Lantos	Sanchez
Cardin	Larson	Sanders
Clay	Lazio	Sawyer
Clayton	Leach	Schakowsky
Clyburn	Lee	Scott
Coyne	Levin	Serrano
Crowley	Lewis (GA)	Shays
Cummings	Lipinski	Sherman
Davis (FL)	Lofgren	Slaughter
Davis (IL)	Lowe	Smith (WA)
Davis (VA)	Luther	Snyder
DeFazio	Maloney (CT)	Spratt
DeGette	Maloney (NY)	Stabenow
DeLauro	Markey	Stark
Deutsch	Martinez	Stupak
Dicks	Matsui	Tancredo
Dixon	McCarthy (MO)	Tauscher
Doggett	McCarthy (NY)	Thompson (CA)
Dooley	McDermott	Thompson (MS)
Doyle	McGovern	Tierney
Dunn	McNulty	Towns
Edwards	Meehan	Udall (CO)
Engel	Meek (FL)	Udall (NM)
Eshoo	Meeks (NY)	Upton
Evans	Menendez	Velazquez
Farr	Millender	Vento
Fattah	McDonald	Visclosky
Filner	Miller, George	Waters
Forbes	Mink	Watt (NC)
Ford	Moakley	Waxman
Frank (MA)	Moore	Weiner
Franks (NJ)	Moran (VA)	Wexler
Frelinghuysen	Morella	Weygand
Frost	Nadler	Woolsey
Gejdenson	Napolitano	Wu
Gephardt	Neal	Wynn
	Oberstar	

NAYS—249

Aderholt	Boyd	Cubin
Archer	Brady (TX)	Cunningham
Armey	Bryant	Danner
Bachus	Burr	Deal
Baird	Burton	DeLay
Baker	Callahan	DeMint
Ballenger	Calvert	Diaz-Balart
Barcia	Camp	Dickey
Barr	Canady	Dingell
Barrett (NE)	Cannon	Doolittle
Bartlett	Castle	Dreier
Barton	Chabot	Duncan
Bass	Chambliss	Ehlers
Bateman	Chenoweth-Hage	Ehrlich
Bereuter	Clement	Emerson
Berry	Coble	English
Biggert	Coburn	Etheridge
Billirakis	Collins	Everett
Bishop	Combest	Ewing
Bliley	Condit	Fletcher
Blunt	Cook	Foley
Boehner	Cooksey	Fossella
Bonilla	Costello	Fowler
Bono	Cox	Galleghy
Boswell	Cramer	Ganske
Boucher	Crane	Gekas

Gibbons	Lewis (KY)	Salmon
Gilchrest	Linder	Sandlin
Gillmor	LoBondo	Sanford
Gilman	Lucas (KY)	Saxton
Goode	Lucas (OK)	Schaffer
Goodlatte	Manzullo	Sensenbrenner
Goodling	Mascara	Sessions
Gordon	McCollum	Shadegg
Goss	McCrery	Shaw
Graham	McHugh	Sherwood
Granger	McInnis	Shimkus
Green (WI)	McIntosh	Shows
Greenwood	McIntyre	Shuster
Gutknecht	McKeon	Simpson
Hall (OH)	Metcalf	Sisisky
Hall (TX)	Mica	Skeen
Hansen	Miller (FL)	Skelton
Hastings (WA)	Miller, Gary	Smith (MI)
Hayes	Minge	Smith (NJ)
Hayworth	Mollohan	Smith (TX)
Hefley	Moran (KS)	Souder
Heger	Murtha	Spence
Hill (IN)	Myrick	Stearns
Hill (MT)	Nethercutt	Stenholm
Hilleary	Ney	Strickland
Hilliard	Northup	Stump
Hinchey	Norwood	Sununu
Hobson	Nussle	Sweeney
Hoekstra	Ortiz	Talent
Holden	Ose	Tanner
Hostettler	Oxley	Tauzin
Houghton	Packard	Taylor (MS)
Hulshof	Paul	Taylor (NC)
Hunter	Pease	Terry
Hutchinson	Peterson (MN)	Thomas
Hyde	Peterson (PA)	Thornberry
Isakson	Petri	Thune
Istook	Phelps	Thurman
Jenkins	Pickering	Tiahrt
Johnson (CT)	Pickett	Toomey
Johnson, Sam	Pitts	Trafficant
Jones (NC)	Pombo	Turner
Kanjorski	Portman	Vitter
Kaptur	Pryce (OH)	Walden
Kasich	Quinn	Walsh
Kelly	Radanovich	Wamp
Kind (WI)	Rahall	Watkins
King (NY)	Regula	Watts (OK)
Klink	Reynolds	Weldon (FL)
Knollenberg	Riley	Weldon (PA)
Kolbe	Roemer	Weller
LaHood	Rogers	Whitfield
Lampson	Rohrabacher	Wicker
Largent	Ros-Lehtinen	Wilson
Latham	Royce	Wise
LaTourette	Ryan (WI)	Wolf
Lewis (CA)	Ryun (KS)	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—10

Buyer	Jefferson	Scarborough
Carson	John	Young (AK)
Conyers	Kingston	
Green (TX)	McKinney	

□ 1501

Messrs. PETRI, GREENWOOD, THOMAS, PICKERING, GANSKE, SMITH of Texas, NUSSLE and HILLIARD changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Messrs. LAZIO, JACKSON of Illinois, FRELINGHUYSEN and VISCLOSKY changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the motion to instruct was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1500

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3064, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 330 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 330

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 3064) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes. The bill shall be considered as read for amendment. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HANSEN). The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LINDER) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 330 is a closed rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3064, the D.C. appropriation bill for fiscal year 2000. The rule provides for 1 hour of general debate divided equally between the chairman and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. Additionally, the rule waives all points of order against the bill. House Resolution 330 also provides for one motion to recommit with or without instructions, as is the right of the minority of the House.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 330 is a closed rule recognizing the full and fair debate that the House had on similar legislation on July 27, 1999. This rule will assist the House to move forward in the appropriations process.

I regret that it is necessary to bring another appropriations measure to the floor to fund the District of Columbia. As my colleagues know, Congress sent a bill to President Clinton on September 16 of this year that funded the District government at levels above those requested by the President and with almost no changes from the bill he signed a year earlier. Unfortunately, the President used this bill to send an early message to Congress and the American people he would be playing politics with the budget again this year.

The precursor to the underlying legislation, H.R. 2587, appropriated the total of \$429 million in Federal funding support for the District, 35 million above the President's request. The bill sent 6.8 billion in District funds back to the people of Washington, \$40 million more than was requested by the President. Apparently, Mr. Speaker, this was not enough.

I was very disappointed when the President vetoed the District funding bill, but I was most surprised by the issue cited by the President in his veto message. The President chose to put a bizarre agenda of free needles and legalized drugs over the interests of the citizens of Washington, D.C. He vetoed

it because it would not allow the District to distribute needles to drug addicts or legalize marijuana.

The President's intent to allow the District to use Federal dollars to fund needle exchanges is only the latest time he has been on the wrong side of this issue. Last year Secretary Shalala indicated the Clinton administration would lift the ban on Federal funding, but when the drug czar, Barry McCaffrey, denounced the move saying it would sanction drug use, the White House upheld the Federal ban but continues to trumpet the effectiveness of needle exchange programs. This clever triangulation technique saved him from a political debacle; but it exposed his true convictions on this issue.

What kind of message do we send to our kids when our government tells them not to do drugs, but then supplies them with needles? As noted by the Heritage Foundation's Joe Loconte, quote, "The Clinton administration has tacitly embraced a profoundly misguided notion that we must not confront drug abusers on moral grounds. Instead we should use medical interventions to minimize the harm and the behavior it invites," close quotes.

Such a policy ignores that drug addiction is an illness of the soul as much as the body. We, as a Nation, have a responsibility to set moral and legal standards that demand responsible behavior and enabling drug users to engage in illegal behavior does nothing to end their tragic addiction or stop the spread of drugs in America.

Another reason President Clinton vetoed this bill is because he believes the District residents should be allowed to legalize marijuana. Not only does the President want D.C. residents to be able to use marijuana, but he also wants them to be able to grow it for their friends. Once again his own drug czar, General Barry McCaffrey, has said that, quote, "Smoked marijuana is not medicine. It has no curative impact at all," close quotes.

In fact, the drug czar advises against using marijuana for medical purposes, exactly the language used in the D.C. referendum. Still, the President vetoed the D.C. appropriations bill over this issue. This completely undercuts the consistent and responsible "Just Say No" message by General McCaffrey and Congress who are working to keep illegal drugs out of our schools and off our streets.

Over the last several months Congress and the President have been debating over the best way to spend the American people's hard-earned tax dollars. We have talked about education, Social Security, and our national defense. We have a lot of differences on these issues, but this is something I had hoped that we could agree on. Spending taxpayer dollars to fuel the habit of drug addicts is not only irresponsible, it is wrong.

There was a time when the President agreed that these provisions made